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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/593,457	04/10/2007	Kailash C. Gulati	2004UR013	9949
34477	7590	01/05/2010	EXAMINER	
Exxon Mobil Upstream Research Company P.O. Box 2189 (CORP-URC-SW 359) Houston, TX 77252-2189			NGUYEN, CHI Q	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3635	
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			01/05/2010	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/593,457	Applicant(s) GULATI ET AL.	
	Examiner CHI Q. NGUYEN	Art Unit 3635	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 December 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 8-19 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 20-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 September 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election without traverse of group II (claims 1-7 and 20-25) in the reply filed on 12/9/2009 is acknowledged.

Claims 1-7 and 20-25 are pending.

Claims 8-19 have been withdrawn.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 9/19/2006 is being considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 20-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claims 20 and 23, the phrase "may be" renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear whether the limitations following the phrase are part of the claimed invention. See MPEP § 2173.05(d). Claims 21-22 and 24-25 depending upon the rejected claims 20 and 23 are also rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

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A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-7 and 20-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Pat. No. 4,344,264 to Smith.

Claims 1 and 20:

Smith discloses an LNG full containment system, comprising: a floor slab 12; a primary container 18 positioned on the floor slab 12, the primary container 18 being insulated 26 to hold liquefied natural gas; and a secondary container 14 peripherally positioned around the primary container 18, the secondary container 14 comprising a plurality of composite walls attached to the floor slab 12, with each of the composite walls being formed from a plurality of prefabricated wall panels configured to be adjoined in side-to-side fashion; and wherein each of the prefabricated wall panels is formed from a combination of steel and concrete (see abstract) such that the prefabricated wall panel comprises a concrete plate having a longitudinal axis and an outer surface, and at least one steel beam 34 connected to the outer surface of the concrete plate along the longitudinal axis of the concrete plate.

Claim 2:

Wherein the plurality of composite walls of the secondary container 14 comprises: a first end wall; a second end wall; and at least two side walls, with each of the at least two side walls being disposed on opposing sides of the first end wall (see Fig. 1).

Claims 3 and 21:

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Wherein each of the prefabricated wall panels further comprises: a moisture barrier 16 disposed on the concrete plate opposite the at least one steel beam 34.

Claims 4 and 22:

Wherein each of the prefabricated wall panels further comprises: an insulation layer 26 along the moisture barrier 16 opposite the at least one steel beam 34; and a liner plate 24 on the insulation layer.

Claim 5:

Wherein the moisture barrier 16 is fabricated from material selected from the group consisting of: a metallic material and a polymeric material (col. 2, line 50).

Claims 6, 23 and 24:

Further comprising: a roof structure 42, the roof structure comprising a plurality of prefabricated roof panels adjoined in side-to-side fashion, each of the roof panels comprising: a concrete plate having an inner surface, and a steel truss structure under the inner surface of the concrete plate (col. 4, lines 10-12).

Claim 7:

Wherein: the plurality of composite walls of the secondary container 14 comprises: a first end wall; a second end wall; and at least two side walls, with each of the at least two side walls being disposed on opposing sides of the first end wall; each of the prefabricated wall panels comprises: a moisture barrier 16 disposed on the concrete plate opposite the at least one steel beam, an insulation layer 26 along the moisture barrier, and a liner plate on the insulation layer; and the secondary container 14 further comprises a roof structure 42, the roof structure comprising a plurality of prefabricated

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roof panels adjoined in side-to-side fashion, each of the roof panels comprising: a concrete plate having an inner surface, and a steel truss structure under the inner surface of the concrete plate.

Claim 25:

Wherein the barrier layer 34 is fabricated from a carbon steel (col. 3, line 18).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Chi Q. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-6847. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:30 am-4:00 pm.

If attempt to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Chilcot can be reached at (571) 272-6777.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pairedirect.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at (866) 217-9197.

/C. Q. N./

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/Richard E. Chilcot, Jr./

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3635